SOLAR/1045-79/03

Monthly Performance Report

MONTECITO PINES

MARCH 1979



U.S. Department of Energy

National Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program

National Solar Data Program

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MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

MONTECITO PINES

MARCH 1979

I. SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

The Montecito Pines site is an apartment complex in Santa Rosa, California. It consists of one instrumented unit containing eight apartments. Each apartment has approximately 864 square feet of conditioned space. Solar energy is used for space heating and preheating domestic hot water (DHW). The solar energy system which serves the 8-apartment unit has an array of flatplate collectors with a gross area of 950 square feet. The array faces 22 degrees west of south at an angle of 45 degrees to the horizontal. Water is the transfer medium that delivers solar energy from the collector array to storage and to the space heating and hot water loads. Freeze protection is provided by drain down. Solar energy is stored underground in a 2000-gallon insulated tank. City water is circulated through a heat exchanger in the storage tank for preheating before entering a gas-fired boiler which supplies DHW on demand. When solar energy is insufficient to satisfy the space heating load, the gas-fired boiler provides auxiliary energy for space heating. The system, shown schematically in Figure 1, has four modes of solar operation.

- Mode 1 Collector-to-Storage: This mode activates when the collector plate temperature exceeds the storage temperature by 17°F and terminates when a temperature difference of 3°F is reached. Collector loop pump Pl is operating.
- Mode 2 Storage-to-Space Heating: This mode activates when there is a space heating demand and the temperature at the top of the storage tank is 105°F or higher. Space heating pump P2 is operating and mode diversion valves V1 and V2 divert the flow to the heat exchanger in the storage tank and bypass the gas-fired boiler.
- Mode 3 Auxiliary Space Heating, DHW Preheating: This mode activates when there is a space heating demand and the temperature at the top of the storage tank is less than 105°F. Space heating pump P2 is operating and mode diversion valves V1 and V2 direct the flow through the gas-fired boiler and bypass the heat exchanger in the storage tank.
- <u>Mode 4 DHW Preheating</u>: This mode activates when there is a demand for DHW. <u>Incoming city water passes through the heat exchanger in the storage tank on the way to the gas-fired boiler which supplies hot water, on demand, to the apartments.</u>

II. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION

The site was occupied during the month of March, and the solar energy system operated continuously during the month. Solar energy satisfied 52 percent of

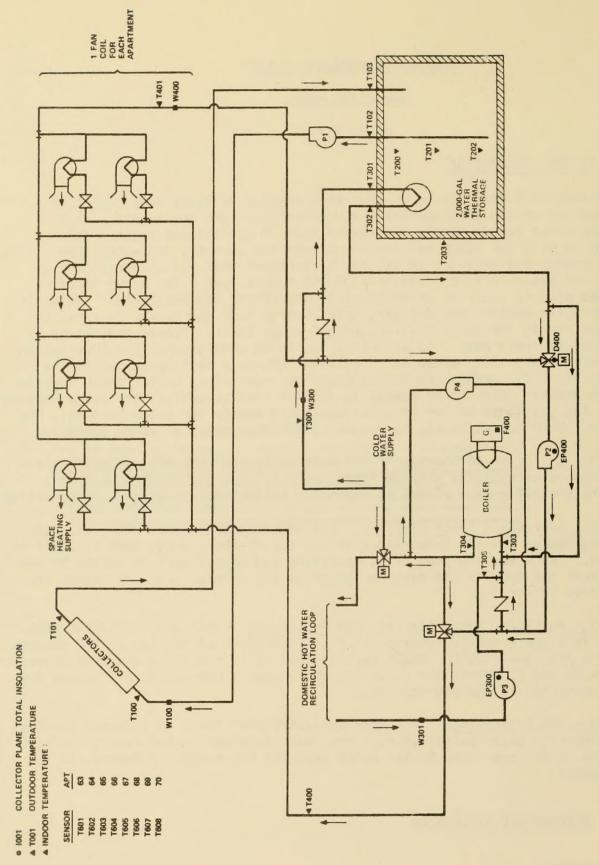


Figure 1. MONTECITO PINES APARTMENTS SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM SCHEMATIC

the DHW requirements and 11 percent of the space heating requirements. The solar energy system provided fossil fuel energy savings of 13.1 million Btu at an expense of 0.50 million Btu of electrical energy.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

During the month, total incident solar energy on the collector array was 34.3 million Btu for a daily average of 1163 Btu per square foot. This was below the estimated average daily solar radiation for this geographical area during March of 1669 Btu per square foot for a plane facing 22 degrees west of south with a tilt of 45 degrees to the horizontal. The average ambient temperature during March was 50°F as compared with the long-term average for March of 53°F. The number of heating degree-days for the month (based on a 65°F reference) was 451, as compared with the long-term average of 381.

THERMAL PERFORMANCE

System - During March the solar energy system performed slightly poorer than expected. The expected performance resulted from a modified f-chart analysis using measured weather and subsystem loads as inputs. Solar energy collected was 10.0 million Btu versus an estimated 10.3 million Btu. Solar energy used by the system was estimated by assuming that all energy collected would be applied to the load. Actual solar energy used was 7.9 million Btu. System total solar fraction was 22 percent versus an estimated 25 percent.

Collector - The total incident solar radiation on the collector array for the month of March was 34.3 million Btu. During the period the collector loop was operating, the total insolation amounted to 28.9 million Btu. The total collected solar energy for the month of March was 10.0 million Btu, resulting in a collector array efficiency of 29 percent, based on total incident insolation. Solar energy delivered from the collector array to storage was 8.8 million Btu. Energy loss during transfer from the collector array to storage was 1.2 million Btu. This loss represented 12 percent of the energy collected. Operational energy required by the collector loop was 0.50 million Btu.

Storage - Solar energy delivered to storage was 8.8 million Btu. There were 8.3 million Btu delivered from storage to the DHW and space heating subsystems. Energy loss from storage was 0.31 million Btu. This loss represented 4 percent of the energy delivered to storage. The storage efficiency was 96 percent: This is calculated as the ratio of the sum of the energy removed from storage and the change in stored energy, to the energy delivered to storage. The average storage temperature for the month was 99°F.

DHW Load - The DHW subsystem consumed 4.7 million Btu of solar energy and 5.5 million Btu of auxiliary thermal energy (equivalent to 6.8 million Btu of auxiliary fossil fuel energy) to satisfy a hot water load of 9.0 million Btu. The solar fraction of this load was 52 percent. Losses from the DHW subsystem were 1.2 million Btu. The DHW subsystem consumed a total of 0.70 million Btu of operating energy. A daily average of 499 gallons of DHW were consumed at an average temperature of 133°F delivered from the tank.

Space Heating Load - The space heating subsystem consumed 3.1 million Btu of solar energy and 28.3 million Btu of auxiliary thermal energy (equivalent to 35.4 million Btu of auxiliary fossil fuel energy) to satisfy a space heating load of 27.0 million Btu. The solar fraction of this load was 11 percent. Losses from the space heating subsystem were 4.5 million Btu. The space heating subsystem consumed a total of 2.2 million Btu of operating energy.

OBSERVATIONS

Sensor anomalies still exist in the space heating subsystem and the auxiliary fossil fuel energy supply.

ENERGY SAVINGS

The solar energy system provided a total fossil fuel energy savings of 13.1 million Btu at an expense of 0.5 million Btu of electrical energy. The DHW subsystem provided fossil fuel energy savings of 7.9 million Btu, while the space heating subsystem contributed a fossil fuel energy savings of 5.2 million Btu.

III. ACTION STATUS

Plans have not been formulated to correct the identified sensor anomalies at this site.

AND COOLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM SOLAR HEATING

MCNTHLY REPORT SITE SUMMARY

SITE: MONTECITO PINES REPCRT PERIOD: MARCH,1979

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SOLAR/1045-79/03

MONTECITO PINES IS AN APARTMENT COMPLEX WITH EIGHT INSTRUMENTED UNITS.
THE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM PRCVIDES SPACE HEATING AND DOMESTIC HOT WATER.
THE CCLLECTION STORAGE LCCP USES WATER FOR THE ENERGY TRANSFER AND STORAGE LCCP USES WATER FOR THE ENERGY TRANSFER AND STORAGE MEDIUM. WATER FOR DCNESTIC FCT WATER USE PASSES THROUGH A HX IN THE STORAGE TANK AND THEN THROUGH A GAS FIRED BCILLER IN THE DHW RECIRC. LCOP. WATER FOR SPACE HEATING CIRCULATES THROUGH THE STORAGE TANK HX OR THROUGH THE GAS FIRED BCILER AND IS AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUAL APARTMENTS ON DEMANG. TIS

DATA: ERAL SITE GENERAL

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SYSTEM TOTAL 35.997 MILLION 22 PERCENT 7.861 MILLION 3.354 MILLION 33.689 MILLION

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STEM PERFORMANCE FACTOR

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SOLAR FEATING AND CCCLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

MONTHLY REPORT SITE SUMMARY

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REFERENCE: USER'S GUIDE TO THE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SCLAF DATA PROGRAM, FEBRUARY 28,1978, SCLAR/0004-78/18

SOLAR HEATING AND CCCLING DEMCNSTRATION PROGRAM

ENERGY CCLLECTICN AND STORAGE SUBSYSTEM (ECSS)

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MONTHLY REPORT HOT WATER SUBSYSTEM 103

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WCNTHLY REPORT SPACE HEATING SUBSYSTEM

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SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING DEMCNSTRATICN PROGRAM

MCNTHLY REPORT ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

SOLAR/1045-79/03 SANTA ROSA, CA SITE: MCNTECITO PINES REPORT PERIOD: MARCH:1979

WIND SPEED M.P.H.	MT@AOHTODA HOZ	4	N. A.	N114
WIND DIRECTION DEGREES	MT@POHFOZ		N. A.	N115
RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT	MCDPACTM	1	Y Z	
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